

10-4-2013

The Parthenon, October 4, 2013

Bishop Nash
Parthenon@marshall.edu

Follow this and additional works at: <http://mds.marshall.edu/parthenon>

Recommended Citation

Nash, Bishop, "The Parthenon, October 4, 2013" (2013). *The Parthenon*. Paper 267.
<http://mds.marshall.edu/parthenon/267>

This Newspaper is brought to you for free and open access by the University Archives at Marshall Digital Scholar. It has been accepted for inclusion in The Parthenon by an authorized administrator of Marshall Digital Scholar. For more information, please contact zhangj@marshall.edu.

WEEKEND EDITION

THE PARTHENON

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2013 | VOL. 117 NO. 24 | MARSHALL UNIVERSITY'S STUDENT NEWSPAPER | marshallparthenon.com

HOMECOMING 2013



RICHARD CRANK | THE PARTHENON



ANDREA STEELE | THE PARTHENON



LEXI BROWNING | THE PARTHENON

The Herd opens Conference USA play against the UTSA Roadrunners as Marshall celebrates Homecoming weekend [>More inside](#)

Inside this edition:



FILE PHOTO



ANDREA STEELE | THE PARTHENON



ANDREA STEELE | THE PARTHENON

Pumpkin Festival rolls back into Milton
[>Page 2](#)

Magic Makers provides locally-made costumes
[>Page 4](#)

"Anna in the Tropics" takes center stage
[>Page 4](#)

Friday

HIGH 84° LOW 61°

Saturday

HIGH 86° LOW 63°

Sunday

HIGH 82° LOW 57°

page designed and edited by BISHOP NASH
nash24@marshall.edu

270674
GLENN'S SPORTING GOODS

WEEKEND EDITION

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2013 | THE PARTHENON | MARSHALLPARTHENON.COM

THE HERD CELEBRATES MARDI GRAS

Annual Alumni Run to benefit Sight for Kids

By KATY LEWIS
THE PARTHENON

The 18th Annual Marshall University Alumni Run, Sprint for Sight 5k Run/Walk, will begin at 8 a.m. Saturday at Pullman Square in downtown Huntington.

Runners are encouraged to come dressed in Mardi Gras beads and masks to celebrate the homecoming theme, Mardi Gras Marshall Style.

The cost to register is \$25. Registration will start at 6:45 a.m. followed by a pre-race meeting at 7:45 a.m. The race will start on Veteran's Memorial Boulevard.

Medals will be awarded to the top two runners and top two walkers in all age categories.

The Marshall Alumni Association is partnering with the Southeast Huntington Lions Club this year to help raise money for the club and its local charities.

Joseph DeLapa, race contact, explained how the Lions Club uses the money

donated by the 5k.

"Each year we use our contributions to send needy children to area hospitals for vision surgeries and glasses," DeLapa said.

Lions Club International is the world's largest service club organization, made up of 46,000 clubs and 1.35 million members, who volunteer for different causes across the country, according to the Lions Club International website.

Lions Club has worked on projects designed to prevent blindness for nearly 100 years. The organization has helped provide millions of children with eye screening, glasses and other treatments through Sight for Kids.

The Alumni Association is an organization that serves the needs of Marshall, its students and alumni by providing connections between these constituents.



The association is based on five core values: diversity, integrity, loyalty, pride and respect, according to the Alumni Association website.

The course for the 3.11 mile race will begin on Veteran's Memorial Boulevard, loop around downtown and end at the finish line on Veteran's Memorial Boulevard.

The race sponsors include: Cardiovascular Imaging Services; Community of Grace United Methodist Church; City National Bank; City of Huntington; Interventional Pain and Spine Center; Mark Cox, O.D.; Kroger of Barboursville and Marshall Bookstore.

Katy Lewis can be contacted at Lewis405@live.marshall.edu.

SGA events scheduled for homecoming weekend

town. Student Body President E.J. Hassan said he is excited for this year's parade.

"We ended up getting a lot of student groups and constituencies across campus to come out," Hassan said. "This is going to be a really great way to bring everybody together."

Chief of Staff Jordan Wooldridge said he also has high hopes for the parade.

"We've been planning this since April, we've reached out to a lot of organizations," Wooldridge said. "We have organizations that have never been involved in the parade before so we're excited for a big turn out."

Judging of floats will take place in front of the Memorial Student Center, and winners will receive a cash prize during the halftime show of the football game.

After the parade, at 11 a.m.,

there will be a tailgate between Harless Dining Hall and the National City Bank. The tailgate will be sponsored by Buddy's BBQ.

Kickoff for the homecoming game is set for 2 p.m. Before kick off, the new Marco mascot will be revealed on the field. During halftime, the first, second and third place float winners will be announced and awarded cash prizes.

Homecoming Court will be recognized and the winners will be crowned during halftime. Finalists for Miss Marshall are Jackie Hackett, McKenzie Cooley and Ashley Roberts. Finalists for Mr. Marshall are Brian Kauffman, Derek Ramsey and Johnathan Austin.

Hassan hopes that the homecoming spirit will bring out a win for the Herd.

See **HOME COMING** | Page 5

W.Va. Pumpkin Festival returns to Milton

By BRITANY MILLER
THE PARTHENON

Fall lovers searching for the great pumpkin, or maybe just a great piece of pumpkin pie, will have the opportunity to do just that and much more during the annual West Virginia Pumpkin Festival.

The four-day festival, at the West Virginia Pumpkin Park in Milton, W.Va., will celebrate it's 28th year starting Thursday with a large variety of activities, displays, vendors, entertainment and, of course, pumpkin-infused food. The gates will be open Friday through Saturday 9 a.m. to 9 p.m., and Sunday 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Admission is \$7 per person; children five and under get in free.

The festival began as a way to encourage local farmers with the growth and sales of pumpkins and has grown into something much bigger. The festival now supports its own pageant, scholarships,

multiple bake-offs, a variety of arts and crafts, a civil war encampment and boasts a long list of entertainers to be featured both throughout the grounds and on the stage of the 950-seat music hall.

Thursday night entertainment featured Orange Blossom at 5 p.m. and 7 p.m. and Doug Anderson at 6 p.m. and 8 p.m. Friday, guests can enjoy performances by The Hit and Run Band and Silver Eagle Band beginning at 5 p.m. Saturday boasts entertainment in the form of both song and dance through appearances by the Porter Creek Cloggers, the Gate City Gunslingers, Jesse Crawford Band, River-town, Michael Christopher, the Stone Street Band and the Cabell Midland "Rhythm in Red" Show Choir beginning at 10 a.m. The festival will wind down Sunday with performances by Nicholas Naylor,

Jim and Valerie Gabehart, and Kalie Rose.

This year's entertainment also includes daily appearances by Zappo the Clown, Heroes4hire and Soundstations "DJ and Karaoke."

Additionally, the family-friendly event will include many kid activities with displays by a professional chainsaw artist and a Birds of Prey feature Sunday.

Kids and adults alike may also enjoy blacksmithing, apple butter and sorghum molasses making, pumpkin carriage photos, and the famous pumpkin auction. Last year's auction winner took home a 951 pound prized gourd raised by Herman Hevener of Pendleton County.

Money raised in the auction will go to support future West Virginia Pumpkin Festival scholarships.

Britany Miller can be contacted at miller433@marshall.edu.



DWIGHT JORGE | THE PARTHENON

The 28th annual West Virginia Pumpkin Festival is Oct. 3 through Oct. 6 at the West Virginia Pumpkin Park in Milton, W. Va.

Disney policy targeting faux disabled punishes truly disabled

By JASON GARCIA
ORLANDO SENTINEL (MCT)

Every day, usually more than once, Curtis Doyle reminds his dad about the trip they're planning for next summer to Walt Disney World. It's an obvious source of excitement for Doyle, who is 27 years old and has severe autism.

But the trip has become a source of anxiety for his father, Brad Doyle, because Disney said recently it would stop allowing disabled guests to jump ahead in lines at the attractions in its U.S. theme parks. Disney will give them return times instead.

It might seem a minor change to most families. But it's not to Brad Doyle, whose son, like many people with intellectual disabilities, has a tendency to hyper-fixate on things and become frustrated when they are denied him, sometimes melting down in outbursts during which he bites his own hands.

Across the country, parents of children with disabilities are reacting with alarm to news that Disney will soon end its

"Guest Assistance Card" program. Some have launched online petitions and letter-writing campaigns.

Some parents say waiting for an extended period of time, even if they don't have to stand in a crowded queue, is not practical for their children. Some cannot mentally process why they can't ride immediately. Others must be on rigid schedules for food, medicine or even bathroom breaks. Some can be in the parks for only two or three hours before their child becomes exhausted or has a meltdown.

"This is going to be a huge obstacle for my son," said Brad Doyle, 49, of Glendale, Ariz., who has taken his son many times to Disneyland in Anaheim, Calif. "I really have to rethink my whole vacation now."

Disney says it is sympathetic to their concerns. But it also says it must make changes to a program now being widely exploited by others.

Stories of wealthy families hiring disabled tour guides to pose as family members have

drawn national attention and scorn. But the more common abuse is subtler: people faking hard-to-verify handicaps such as heart murmurs, back spasms or claustrophobia; or groups using a pass issued to an elderly relative to jump the lines for thrill rides that the relative can't or won't ride.

The abuse has intensified in recent years, fueled by swelling crowds in Disney's theme parks, which draw tens of millions of visitors a year. Soon after the opening of the popular Cars Land in Disney California Adventure last year, Disney found that close to a quarter of all the visitors riding Radiator Springs Racers — 5,000 out of 20,000 on average per day — were using a Guest Assistance Card, according to MiceChat.com, a website devoted to Disney theme-park news. Most were also annual-pass holders.

Disney won't provide specific figures. But it says that it now gets hundreds of thousands of requests annually for guest-assistance

cards, and that the number of people asking for them has grown "substantially" during the past few years.

Disney says it remains committed to making disabled visitors welcome in its parks.

"Unfortunately, our current program has been abused and exploited to such an extent that we are no longer able to effectively sustain it in its present form," Meg Crofton, president of Disney's theme-park operations in the U.S. and France, said Friday in an open letter to disability-related organizations.

"We have long recognized that people may have different needs, and we will continue to work individually with our Guests with disabilities to provide assistance that is responsive to their unique circumstances."

Disney is widely seen as among the most disability-friendly companies in the world, and its Guest Assistance Cards are a big reason why. Though they don't completely eliminate waiting, they generally permit a

disabled guest and his or her party to immediately enter the FastPass queue at an attraction or use an alternative entrance.

"The big thing to me was, with kids with special needs, it's just extremely difficult to go and take a vacation. We don't even like stopping in the public restrooms on the way, because our kids have immune deficiencies," said Chuck Baugh, 48, of Boca Raton, father of two sons with glycogen-storage disease. "With what Disney did, they were really the light at the end of the tunnel."

By contrast, both Universal Orlando and SeaWorld Orlando generally require disabled visitors to return to rides at certain times — the model Disney will begin using Oct. 9.

Under Disney's new system, guests will still be issued access cards. But when they show those cards to employees at ride entrances or insert them into certain automated kiosks, they will then be given a time to return dictated by the length of the current

standby line. The new cards will also include the guest's photo and will be good for seven days, down from 14.

"For some families, that's going to be perfectly fine and acceptable. But I think there are some where it's going to limit their ability to go," said Christie Ebeltoft-Bancalari, an Orlando mother of a child with Down syndrome.

Parents say there must be a better solution. Some suggest making families apply for the cards before they arrive in the parks. Others say Disney could allow parents to amass return times for several attractions at once, though doing so might invite more abuse.

"There has to be some sort of middle ground," said Don La Vette of Joliet, Ill., who has an 11-year-old son with autism and oral and motor dyspraxia. "Goodness gracious, you can't hurt kids with disabilities because you have able-bodied people abusing the system or cheating. Really, is that what we want to do?"

See **DISNEY** | Page 5

WEEKEND SPORTS

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2013 | THE PARTHENON | MARSHALLPARTHENON.COM

Herd welcomes Roadrunners for homecoming matchup

By WILL VANCE
SPORTS EDITOR

The Marshall University Thundering Herd football team (2-2) will open up Conference USA play Saturday against the University of Texas at San Antonio Roadrunners (2-3). The game will also be Marshall's homecoming game, with attendance expected to be at a season-high. The Herd had a bye last week, allowing the team to recover after a very physical triple-overtime loss to Virginia Tech Sept. 21.

"This is the perfect timing," senior defensive tackle James Rouse said. "We're coming off the bye week and from now on it's all conference, so all of our goals we want are still out there."

The Roadrunners bring the second-best offense in C-USA with them, second only to the Herd, led by senior quarterback Eric Soza.

"It starts with their quarterback Soza," said Marshall head coach Doc Holliday. "He does a tremendous job and is a great quarterback. He can beat you with his feet and he can also throw it."

Soza has completed 65 percent of his passes so far in 2013, throwing eight touchdowns against six interceptions. Soza is also second on the team in rushing with 150 yards and another score.

"He's a great quarterback," said Rouse of Soza. "He likes the quick game a lot. If his reads aren't open he's going to take the ball and run with it and usually gets pretty good yardage."

Soza's abilities complement the unique style of play the Roadrunners use.

"One thing about their team offensively is that they have a wishbone philosophy," coach Holliday said.

The wishbone offense is characterized by using a full-back and two split running backs, which has contributed to the team having four runners with at least 100 yards on the season.

"They run the ball on the perimeter a lot and their kids play and block hard on the perimeter," Holliday said. "They're also able to throw the ball effectively."

So far this season 18 different players have caught passes for the Roadrunners, presenting a unique challenge for the Herd defensive secondary.

"They do a lot of tricky stuff," redshirt sophomore safety D.J. Hunter said of the UTSA receivers. "They crack a lot, cut a lot and they have some fast guys so we can't take them lightly."

UTSA will have to deal with skilled pass-catchers themselves against the Herd, especially junior receiver Tommy Shuler and senior tight end Gator Hoskins, who have combined for 521 yards and six touchdowns on the season.

"We know how to work together," Shuler said of him and Hoskins. "We also know we can get each other open or other players open. We can get all the focus on our side and open things up for other guys on the other side or in



RICHARD CRANK | THE PARTHENON

Senior tight end Gator Hoskins (26) and his fellow receivers celebrate a second quarter touchdown against the Virginia Tech Hokies, Saturday, Sept. 21 in Blacksburg, Va.

the run game."

On top of being the first C-USA opponent for the Herd in 2013, the Roadrunners are also a new member to the conference. College football itself is new to UTSA, with the program playing its first ever game in 2011. Just two years later, the Roadrunners have moved up to C-USA under

the leadership of head coach Larry Coker, who led the Miami Hurricanes to a national championship in 2011.

"He's been very successful wherever he's been," coach Holliday said of Coker, whom he coached against in the past. "He's been very successful and he's a great, great man. I think anyone who's trying to

start a program should take a look at what Larry [Coker] and them have done down there."

If the first conference game of the season is not enough to fire up the Herd players, Homecoming makes the game even bigger.

"I think it matters a lot," Rouse said. "Every game is the

same as far as we want to win, but Homecoming is a good way to get more fuel into our fire to play."

The Thundering Herd and the Roadrunners will kick off at 2 p.m. at Joan C. Edwards Stadium.

Will Vance can be contacted at vance162@marshall.edu.

Football's Blackmon finds fit in Huntington

By BRAXTON CRISP
FOR THE PARTHENON

Many students at Marshall University who come from faraway places have to adapt to life in a new environment in Huntington, and that holds true for Marshall junior defensive lineman Arnold Blackmon.

Blackmon joined the Thundering Herd in advance of this season as a junior college transfer from Bellaire, Texas, and said that his transition to Huntington began with the outstretched arms of head coach Doc Holliday and defensive line coach JC Price.

"Marshall fit me best," Blackmon said. "There was a need for me here, and I wanted to be here. Coach Holliday and coach Price, they made me feel more than welcome through the visit, coming to see me, sending the letters, communicating with me throughout the recruitment process. I felt loved."

Growing up in Texas, Blackmon was around the numerous college programs in the state such as Texas, Texas A&M, and Texas Tech, but never thought he would be playing at the highest level of collegiate football, much less being playing for a team in Huntington, W.Va.

"You look at big time ball on TV, and you realize, 'Maybe I have a chance to play there, maybe I have a chance to do this,' but you never honestly think about it until you get

there," Blackmon said. "It's a blessing getting so many opportunities to be here on this stage."

There are many cultural differences between Huntington and the Houston-metro area, but Blackmon said he enjoys the closeness of everyone in Huntington above all.

"With Houston being so spread out, and Texas being so wide and diverse, it's hard to stay close to people," Blackmon said. "Out here, it's so close, everybody is right in town, I love it."

In his time in Huntington so far, Blackmon has taken a liking to the local restaurant Fat Patty's, but not just because of the food. He said he loves seeing the various pieces of Marshall history and memorabilia hanging on the walls as well.

"Just to be in the shoes those guys were in so long ago, now it's a blessing and also a great opportunity and I just hope I can show respect to their names," Blackmon said of former Herd players such as Chad Pennington and Troy Brown who have pictures and other historic relics hanging inside the restaurant.

In addition to appreciating the history inside Fat Patty's, Blackmon discovered how much the Marshall football program means to Huntington and the type of fan base the Herd

See BLACKMON | Page 5

Oppinger opens up

The Marshall University women's tennis team made its presence known at the Virginia Tech Invitational this past weekend. Sophomore Dana Oppinger left Blacksburg, Va., with a Flight-A singles bracket victory, her first collegiate tournament win.

With her fall season in full swing, the international business major from Weingarten, Germany, served up some chatter for a closer look at her personal life.



PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY KARLYN TIMKO | THE PARTHENON

Q: Think about your life. What has been your biggest accomplishment thus far?

A: I lived one year in Mexico City all by myself after graduating from high school. It made me to a bigger person and I think it has been my biggest adventure and accomplishment.

Q: Who is your hero?

A: My parents are my heroes. They support me in everything I do and are always full of energy and enthusiasm.

Q: What is your biggest fear?

A: That life will run fast and I will not live, travel and experience everything I always wanted to.

Q: What is your fondest childhood memory?

A: When I was 12 I went to play the Orange Bowl Tournament in Florida. I got the chance to play against the best girls in the world in my age group. It was the nicest tournament I've ever played.

Q: If you were stranded on an island, what three things would you bring?

A: A lot of sparkling water, music and my camera to show everyone how beautiful my vacation

Q: If you could make one change in the world, what would it be?

A: I would destroy weapons and arms.

Q: If you could have any superhero power, what would it be and why?

A: I would love to fly. I could fly to Rome and have an espresso in the morning and dinner in Thailand at the beach all in one day.

See OPPINGER | Page 5

269080
CABELL HTGN FOUNDATION
FERTILITY
2 x 5.0

WEEKEND EDITION

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 4 2013 | THE PARTHENON | MARSHALLPARTHENON.COM

“Anna in the Tropics” hits the stage



PHOTOS BY ANDREA STEELE | THE PARTHENON

“Anna in the Tropics” is a Pulitzer Prize winning drama. It made its debut at the Joan C. Edwards Playhouse Wednesday and will continue its run through Saturday.

By ZACH HAUGHT
THE PARTHENON

“Anna in the Tropics” made its debut at the Joan C. Edwards Playhouse Wednesday and will be performed through Saturday.

The 2003 Pulitzer Prize for drama-winning play written by Nilo Cruz takes place in a 1929 cigar factory in Tampa, Fla. Lectors, or readers, were common Cuban tradition at this time in cigar factories to keep employees entertained. The newest lector arrives and begins to read “Anna Karenina” by Leo Tolstoy, which causes problems as it mirrors events happening in the factory.

Nicole Perrone, director and assistant professor in acting and movement for Marshall University, said that the theatre department got together

last year to decide on the play. Students receiving credit based on a play is a determining factor when deciding what to perform.

“It’s essentially their lab, so we’re always thinking about selecting plays that will give students the right kinds of challenges: acting challenges, movement challenges, vocal challenges and then challenges with regard to design and technical skills,” Perrone said.

Erika Toderic, a junior in Marshall’s theatre performance program, said she faced many challenges preparing for her role as Marela, the younger daughter of the Cuban family that owns the cigar factory.

“I play young girls a lot,” Toderic said. “Marela is a younger character, but what’s different

in this role than the other little girls that I’ve played in the past is that something happens to her in the course of the show that makes her character arc really, really large.”

Toderic said Perrone’s honest feedback on the show was needed.

“You need honesty, and she is really, really honest and really well rounded trainer, professor and director,” Toderic said. “I really enjoy working with her.”

James Morris-Smith, Marshall’s director of theatre facilities and set designer, said that research is essential to providing an accurate set. This included searching the internet for images and videos, as well as finding inspiration from an old coffee table book on art in the tobacco industry.

“Some of the artwork that was on the cigar bands and the boxes and the logos was absolutely beautiful,” Morris-Smith said. “That was a really good help to kind of guide the show.”

Morris-Smith also noted the irony of this play’s timing.

“Oddly enough we’re doing this show about cigar rolling just as the ban for smoking on campus came about,” Morris-Smith said.

While Perrone played a large role in preparing the show, theatre students must run the show when the time arrives.

“We have a whole student support system: a backstage crew, a stage management team and they’re supported by faculty and staff,” Perrone said.

See ANNA | Page 5

Magic Makers, Inc. offering diverse selection of costumes

By GEOFFREY FOSTER
THE PARTHENON

When October rolls around, the prevalent shopping trend generally involves a trip to Wal-Mart or similar corporate-owned giant to peruse the Halloween items it has on sale. The selection is never very large or particularly varied, but these stores remain the go-to places for the Halloween season.

For many years, Magic Makers, Inc. has offered a more diverse selection of items for Halloween.

Once a magic shop located on Route 60, Magic Makers is Huntington’s only costume supply store. It is owned and operated by boyhood friends Ken Fox and Ken Epperly.

“We were both magicians from grade school on,” Epperly said. “We met in high school because the former prosecuting attorney Bob Ellis had a magic club in town and we were the two youngest members. When I turned 21, we went to Times Square to watch the ball drop and visit the magic shops. That’s when we decided to come back and open our own magic shop here in Huntington. That was in March of 1979.”

In that time period, Halloween did not have the nationwide appeal that it has today.

“We got in on the ground floor when Halloween was just starting to catch on,” Epperly said. “One of our main suppliers

once told me, ‘The industry matures in 30 to 35 years,’ and that describes us, when we got in there was very little available and the only place you could buy anything was a costume shop. You couldn’t walk in to a CVS and find Halloween stuff. Now every store you go to has something Halloween related.”

Aside from items for purchase, Magic Makers also has a huge selection of costumes for rent. They have everything from historical garb to vampire outfits. Most of these costumes are of a quality actors on a stage might wear. In fact, much of what they have is used for that very purpose. Magic Maker’s inventory, which encompasses 15,000 items, is not limited to Halloween. They are open all year long.

“Year-round costume shops depend on Halloween,” Epperly said. “Some months you make money, some months you lose it, but Halloween kind of takes care of the bills. The rest of the year our business comes from theaters and universities, but we mostly do high school and junior high theatre. We are also event oriented: if there is a parade, people come to us. Mardi Gras, costume parties, proms with a masked ball theme—people will come to us. We depend on what’s going on in the outside world.”

See MAGIC | Page 5



PHOTOS BY ANDREA STEELE | THE PARTHENON

Magic Makers, Inc., a local costume shop in Huntington that specializes in Halloween items, is open year-round and offers a variety of costumes for purchase and to rent to the Huntington community, as well as those not from the area. However, Magic Makers, Inc. also provides costumes for local junior high and high school theatre productions, as well as costume parties, proms and more.

Black Alumni events planned for Homecoming

By COLTON JEFFRIES
THE PARTHENON

Homecoming is in full swing this week at Marshall University and organizations all over campus are setting up events to help make the week for students and returning alumni alike memorable. The Marshall Black Alumni organization in particular has several events lined up for Homecoming.

The organization is hosting the Champagne Reception and a Silent Auction to help welcome back returning alumni to campus. The event is being held at the Erickson Alumni Center in Foundation Hall from 7:30 p.m. until 9:30 p.m. Friday. The cost to attend is \$25 and goes to support the Janis Winkfield Scholarship Fund. There will be a silent auction at the reception with all proceeds going towards the fund.

The Janis Winfield Scholarship is named after a woman who worked for Marshall’s financial aid department who passed away four years ago who, according to Marshall University Black Alumni Incorporated President Fran Jackson, was an important part of Marshall.

“She worked with everybody with their financial aid, and she was just a very dedicated person and a very dedicated Marshall fan,” Jackson said.

After the reception, MUBA invites Marshall alumni and current student to the Laid Back After Party in the Memorial Student Center basement from 10 p.m. until 1 a.m. The party is exactly what it sounds like. It allows people to sit down, chill out and reconnect with old friends or perhaps even

make new ones. The event is \$25 but Marshall students with a student ID can get in for half price.

On Saturday, the MUBA is hosting a tailgate before the game near the Foundation Hall from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. The event will be catered by the local restaurant Buddy’s BBQ, which means the tailgate will have foods like pulled pork, pulled chicken, fried fish and all the fixings. The event is \$25 to attend but the same rule for students applies.

Later on in the evening, MUBA is hosting its annual Rhoyal Affair Black Alumni Dance, which is being held at the Pullman Plaza Hotel’s grand ballroom from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. Hybrid Soul Project, a band from Charleston, W.Va., will provide live music at the dance. The dance will also feature a silent auction where things like signed basketballs from Marshall, gift cards and hotel stays will be auctioned off.

The weekend concludes with a Sunday morning breakfast and prayer service at the Pullman Plaza Hotel at 9 a.m. It gives alumni a chance to say their goodbyes and to have one of the alumni take up a memorial prayer, in which people can mention members of their family who have passed during the past year.

Jackson wanted to stress that all of these events are open to everybody.

“We’re excited and looking forward to everybody coming back,” Jackson said.

All the proceeds for these events go toward the Janis Winkfield Scholarship Fund.

Colton Jeffries can be contacted at jeffries17@marshall.edu.



